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PORTHCAWL
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL
REPORT



OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

ETHEL G. DAVIES

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.)

FOR THE YEAR

1947

1949

D. W. Jones (Printers) Ltd., Port Talbot.

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Public Health Department,

124, John Street,

Porthcawl.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Porthcawl Urban District Council.**

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your kind consideration my Annual Report for the year 1947, and trust that this record of the work of the Health Department reflects, to your satisfaction, the efforts made by every member of the Department to attain the maximum health efficiency in the town.

I am,

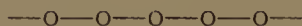
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ETHEL G. DAVIES,

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1947.



Members of the Public Health Committee—

Councillor W. E. JONES (Chairman of the Council).
Councillor R. B. THOMAS (Chairman of the Health Committee).
Councillor E. M. BOWEN. Councillor J. T. LEWIS.
Councillor R. D. CHALKE, M.A., LL.D. Councillor R. MABLEY.
Councillor T. L. DAVIES. Councillor T. MORGAN.
Councillor G. GLENTON. Councillor CYRIL PHILLIPS.
Councillor F. G. KNOTT. Councillor JENKIN PHILLIPS.
Councillor JAMES LEWIS. Councillor D. D. TAYLOR.
Councillor S. THOMAS.



Maternity and Child Welfare Committee—

This Committee is comprised of the whole Council, together with the following Co-opted Members :

Mrs. W. A. HOWELL (Chairman). Mrs. F. GRIFFITHS.
Mrs. A. BROOKE. Mrs. A. LEWIS.
Mrs. E. C. CHALKE, J.P. Miss A. ROBERTS.



Public Health Staff—

Medical Officer of Health—

ETHEL G. DAVIES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.), (Part-time)

Sanitary Inspector—

R. P. DICKS, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I. (Whole-time)

Health Visitors—

O. E. DOWSE, S.R.N., H.V. (Whole-time)

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area of District Acres	3,737
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	1,297
" " " (1931)	1,530
" " " end of 1947 (according to Rate Books)	2,547
Rateable Value	£64,288
Estimated Produce of Penny Rate	£246/8/4

Social Conditions.

Porthcawl is one of the most popular seaside resorts in Wales, and its bracing air and natural beauty attract visitors from all parts of the British Isles. It is now quite usual for 1st Class football teams to train here for a short period before an important match, also Bowling Contests, and important conferences are held here. The Royal Porthcawl Golf Club has for many years been a great asset to the town, and important tournaments are played over its magnificent course. Porthcawl is also a residential town and is becoming more and more a dormitory town for Port Talbot, Bridgend, Neath, Maesteg and Cardiff. There are still no big industries in the town, but on the outskirts there are large sand and gravel works, etc.; and within reasonable distance a large Trading Estate, Carbide Works, Coalmines, Steel and Tin Works and a Strip Mill.

Visitors are well catered for in the numerous hotels, boarding houses and private apartments. There are two flourishing Youth Clubs in the Town, also a Sea Cadet Corps, Air Training Squadron, Army Cadet Force, Girl's Nautical Training Corps, also facilities for sports and entertainments of all kinds.

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1947 and previous Years.

Year	Net Births.		NET DEATHS BELONGING TO DISTRICT			
			Under 1 year.		At all ages	
	No.	Rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000
1931	67	10.78	1	15.00	70	11.27
1935	85	13.21	3	35.00	84	13.06
1936	75	11.39	3	40.00	97	14.81
1937	74	11.06	3	40.00	74	11.06
1938	78	11.50	3	38.00	86	12.72
1939	106	15.08	3	28.30	92	12.17
1940	108	11.60	6	53.00	114	12.20
1941	135	13.20	6	44.00	138	13.50
1942	146	15.60	5	34.00	121	12.90
1943	157	17.60	9	57.00	109	12.20
1944	147	17.20	7	48.00	123	14.4
1945	137	16.2	5	37.00	125	14.8
1946	146	17.03	2	0.24	113	13.2
1947	169	19.6	7	41.00	145	16.8

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1947.

	M	F	Total
Live Births, Legitimate	88	75	163
Live Births, Illegitimate	4	2	6
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	19.6		
Still Births	5	3	8
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	0.17		
Deaths	73	72	145
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	16.8		

Deaths from Puerperal Pyrexia.

(Heading 29 and 30 of the Registrar's short list) :—

	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births</i>
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
No. 30. Other Puerperal Causes	1	5.65
	1	5.65

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of age.

All Infants per 1,000 live births	41
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate births	18 86
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 live births	0.69
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	17
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

Causes of Death.

	<i>Causes of Death.</i>		<i>M.</i>	<i>F</i>
All Causes	73	72		
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—		
2 Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—		
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—		
4 Whooping Cough	—	—		
5 Diphtheria	—	—		
6 Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	3	2		
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	—		
8 Syphilitic Diseases	—	—		
9 Influenza	—	—		
10 Measles	—	—		
11 Ac. Polio-Myel. and Polio-enceph.	—	—		
12 Ac. Inf. Enceph.	—	—		
13 Cancer of Buc. Cav. & Oesoph (M) Uterus (F)	—	—		
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	4		
15 Cancer of Breast	—	3		
16 Cancer of all other sites	7	3		
17 Diabetes	—	—		
18 Inter-Cranial Vascular Lesions	7	6		
19 Heart Disease	19	19		
20 Other Dis. of Circ. System	1	3		
21 Bronchitis	6	2		
22 Pneumonia	—	3		
23 Other Res. Dis.	2	2		
24 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	4	—		
25 Diarrhoea, under 2 years	—	—		
26 Appendicitis	—	—		
27 Other Digestie Diseases	—	3		
28 Nephritis	4	3		
29 Puer. and Post Abort. Sepsis	—	—		
30 Other Maternal Causes	—	1		
31 Premature Birth	3	—		
32 Con. Mal. Birth Inj. Infant Dis.	—	3		
33 Suicide	1	1		
34 Road Traffic Accidents	1	—		
35 Other Violent Causes	6	1		
36 All other Causes	9	13		
Total	73	72		

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

All Bacteriological and Chemical Work is carried out by an arrangement with the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff. The following figures show the number and nature of specimens examined during 1947:—

Water (Bacteriological)	14
Water (Chemically)	1
Milk	17
Swabs—Diphtheria	86
Cerebro Spinal Fluid	6
Dysentery	5

Ambulance Facilities.

For infectious cases the two motor ambulances of the Cefn Hirgoed Hospital are available.

For Non-Infectious cases and accidents, one motor ambulance is available: the vehicle is maintained by the Council.

In both instances the service has been satisfactory.

Nursing in the Home.

No provision is made by the Local Authority. Requirements have to be met by the Queen's District Nurse, and also Nurses in private practice from Nursing Centres

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Infant Welfare Clinic.

This Clinic continues to be held weekly, the average attendance for the year now being increased to 55. I am pleased to report that at last a new scale for weighing babies has been supplied to the Clinic.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

This Clinie is still being held weekly with an average attendanee of 25 per session.

On 18/11/46, blood tests on expeetant mothers were eom-
meneed, and tests for Rh. Factor and W.R. were made at the
Blood Transfusion Laboratories and the Institute of Preventive
Medieine, respectively.

Sale of Baby Food, etc.

Numerous brands of Baby Foods are sold at the Clinics.
Total receipts during 1947 from milk foods, and other com-
modities sold at the Clinics at nominal charges:—

£731 17s. 2d.

Orange Juice	.....	1,964 bottles.
Cod Liver Oil	.....	530 bottles.
Vitamin A. & D. Tablets	.....	52 packets

Baby Show.

As the Baby Show held in 1945 was such a success, it
was decided to hold another in August, 1947 for children up
to 4 years of age. This was equally successful. Approxi-
mately 200 Babies were entered for the competition.

Immunisation against Diphtheria Clinic.

Monthly sessions are held for the immunization against
Diphtheria.

Tuberculosis Dispensary.

The nearest dispensary for this Area is the old Cottage
Hospital, Bridgend.

Mass Radiography.

Preliminary arrangements were made in October, 1947
for the Mass Radiography Unit to visit Porthcawl sometime
during 1948.

Venereal Diseases.

The Clinics are under the supervision of the County Public Authority, and the nearest treatment centre is situated in Port Talbot.

Hospitals Available.

For Smallpox, the nearest Hospital is at Cefn Hirgoed in the Penybont Area.

For general Fever cases the Isolation Hospital near Bridgend.

For Tuberculosis the Sanatoria and Tuberculosis Hospitals of the W.N.M.A. and G.C.C.

For Maternity, by arrangement with the Glamorgan Public Assistance Committee, cases are admitted to the Maternity Ward of the Bridgend Infirmary.

For Children, none.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Notification of Births.

The notification of Births Act, which requires all births and still births occurring in the Area after the 28th week of pregnancy to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours, forms the basis of Health Visiting.

The number of Births notified was 169, including 8 still births.

Number of visits paid during the year by the Health Visitor:—

(1) To expectant Mothers—

First Visits	55
Total Visits	148

(2) To children under one year of age—

First Visits	166
Total Visits	953

(3) To children between the ages of 1 and 5—

Total Visits	667
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Infant Welfare Centres.

(a) Number of Centres provided and maintained by the Council	1
(b) Total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance were	
(1) Under one year of age	149
(2) Over one year of age	10
(c) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centre during the year and who, at the end of the year were	
(1) Under one year of age	121
(2) Over one year of age	163

Ante-Natal Services.

(a) Number of Clinics provided and maintained by the Council	1
(b) Total number of women who attended at the Clinic during the year	163
(c) Total number of expectant Mothers ante-natally examined, and of cases post-natally examined during the year, under arrangements made by the Council with private Medical Practitioners excluding cases included under (b)	Nil

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1.—WATER.

- (i) No new sources of supply are in operation.

Fourteen samples have been analysed; 12 were satisfactory, and two unsatisfactory. The latter were collected from a spring on the foreshore at a point opposite the Sea Bank Hotel.

- (ii) The inhabitants of the Town derive their water supply from undertakings owned and controlled by the Porthcawl Urban District Council. The Council has Statutory Powers to supply an area of 3,737 acres within which are situated 2,500 premises with an estimated population of nearly 10,000 persons, increasing to a resident population of 30,000 in the holiday season.
- (iii) The main source of supply is the Craig-Yr-Aber Impounding Reservoir, situated at the head of a valley in the Margam Hills. The gathering grounds for this reservoir (covering an area of approx. 470 acres) have been acquired by the Council in order to safeguard the supply against contamination.
- (iv) The impounding reservoir delivers raw water to a service reservoir (1,000,000 gallons capacity) which is situated at Ty-Coch, within the Urban Area. This service reservoir also receives water from a brook which drains an area known as Cwm Fadog, on the Eastern side of the Craig-Yr-Aber Valley. A supplementary supply of hard water is pumped, as occasion demands from a borehole situated near Fynnon Fawr, Nottage.

- (v) The upland supplies are of good quality; the water from Craig-yr-Aber has a hardness of two to three degrees whilst the Cwm Fadog water is slightly harder, approximately 7 degrees.

Water obtained from the borehole at Fynnon Fawr is very hard, varying from 30 to over 50 degrees of hardness according to the continuity of pumping, and the Chlorine content of this water is abnormally high

Copies of Reports on Chemical Analysis of water are shown hereunder:—

Samples of Water collected from—	Craig-yr-Aber Supply	Borehole Supply Fynnon Fawr
Number of Sample	A. 4917	4524
Appearance in 2ft. tube	Pale green, clear	Pale green, clear
Reaction	Neutral PH=6.8	PH = 7.2
Colour (Burgess Scale)		10 Units
Total Hardness	3.4	58.0
(a) Temporary		
(b) Permanent		
Chlorine	1.8	86.0
Nitrates (N.)	Nil	
Oxygen absorbed from Per manganate (in 4 hours at 80°F.)		
Saline (or 'Free' Ammonia)	.0008	
Organic (or 'Albuminoid') Ammonia	.0014	
Poisonous Metals.	Nil	Nil
Nitrates (N.)		
Microscopic Examination of the Sediment	Pract. Nil. Ani- mate forms rare	Pract. Nil. Ani- mate forms rare

Remarks.

A. 4917. A soft neutral water. The Chemical and microscopical characters are satisfactory.

4524. A very hard water, with a high figure for chlorides. Chemical analysis shows no evidence of any organic contamination.

The present upland resources are insufficient to meet the demands of consumers and the deficiency has to be met by increasing the supplies of hard water from the borehole.

Alternative schemes for improving supplies are still under consideration, and include proposals for a new storage reservoir at Pantyryll, Ty-Coch.

“NEWTON SPA” AT PORTHCAWL.

Much publicity has recently been given to the “healing properties” of the “Newton Well” on the rocky Bristol Channel foreshore near Porthcawl. At a point on Newton Beach, situated approximately midway between the high and low water-marks of mean tides, water bubbles up in many places. These small springs probably existed outside the Newton Churchyard about a quarter of a mile from their present site. It is evident that fresh water and sea-water must be mixed both underground and above ground, especially when the tide covers the springs.

Some of the local people have implicit faith in the healing properties of the waters for external ailments such as varicose and other ulcers and skin diseases, as well as for disorders such as rheumatic conditions and gastric disorders. In view of the claims made in this connection the Urban District Council in 1931 took steps to have the water tested for radioactive properties. The results were negative.

Articles appearing in the press recently, which incidentally were not sponsored by the Local Authority, have led to the Council being inundated by correspondence from all parts of the country requesting quantities of the water. Before complying with these requests it was the plain duty of the Council to satisfy itself that this water could be consumed without undue risk to health. Consequently samples of water were collected for chemical and bacteriological analysis. The reports received from Dr D. Evans Jones of the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratories are as follows:—

CHEMICAL.

Constituent	Parts Approx. per 100,000
Total Hardness	110
Alkalinity as CaCo	25.8
Chlorine	303
Nitrates (N)	0.35
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate (in 4 hours at 80°F. 26.7°C.)	0.078
Saline (or "free") ammonia	0.0100
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia	0.0150
Poisonous metals	Nil
Nitrites (N)	Very faint trace.
Dissolved zinc, iron and manganese	Nil
Dissolved oxygen (10.5°F. -12°C.)	0.93
Calcium carbonate	25.8
Calcium sulphate	11.6
Manganese sulphate	44.4
Magnesium chloride	14.5
Potassium nitrate	2.6
Potassium chloride	9.9
Sodium Chloride	474.0
Traces silica, organic matter, etc.	1.2
Total solid constituents at 180°C.	584.0

The water has a brackish taste owing to the high sodium chloride content, probably due to the infiltration of approximately 15% of sea-water.

	<i>Sample A.</i>	<i>Sample B.</i>
Air Temperature	32°F. (0°C.)	31°F. (-0.6°C.)
Seawater Temperature	40°F. (4.4°C.)	40°F.
Spring water Temperature... ..	51°F. (10.6°C.)... ..	51°F.
p ^H	7.6	7.6
Chlorides (as Cl.)	523	430 parts per 100,000

The variable chloride content of the spring water may be regarded as due to infiltration of sea-water. The results indicate the presence of approximately 26% of sea-water in Sample A (taken between high and low tides) and approximately 21% in Sample B (taken when the tide was right out).

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

<i>Spring, Newton Beach (Immediately after Spring was uncovered by Tide).</i>		<i>Spring, 'Newton Spa' (Tide fully out)</i>	
Bacteria per ml. at 20°C.	12	.....	12
Bacteria per ml. at 37°C.	6	.....	6
Probable No. of coliform bacilli—30 per 100 ml.		.....	25 per 100 ml.
Probable No. of faecal bact. coli—25 per 100 ml.		.....	25 per 100 ml.

Both these samples were contaminated. No pathogens of the enteric group were isolated. Results similar to the above were obtained in all the samples collected.

In view of these adverse reports, notices were immediately inserted in the Press stating that the water was contaminated and therefore unfit for human consumption. In spite of this warning large numbers of people gather at the well daily, and quantities of the water are carried away and sent to all parts of the country.

2.—DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

- (i) The major portion of the district is sewered; one small section has a separate system for surface water drainage, the remainder is on a combined system. That part of the Urban Area West of the railway drains by gravity to a sea outfall near Iron Gate Point. Most of the sewage of the Eastern section gravitates to a pumping station at Glan Road, the remainder to a sea outfall situated opposite the Red House, Newton.
- (ii) Important extensions to the sewers have been made during the year to meet the needs of new development on the Council's Housing Estate, these include the following:—

Foul System—850 yards of 12 inch glazed earthenware.

Surface System—1,150 yards of 15 inch concrete.

Cesspools.

The number of cesspools in use is 43. In addition to the foregoing there are 3 septic tanks.

These are situated in parts of the District to which no sewer is readily accessible, and the necessary extensions with a view to connecting up these properties are not at the present time considered practicable.

The emptying and cleansing of cesspools is carried out by the Council's workmen under the direction of the Surveyor.

As the opportunity arises with the development of different areas, every effort is made to dispense with cesspools, and cause the premises concerned to drain into the Council's sewers.

Ashpit Accommodation.

The last detailed check on ashpit accommodation revealed that of 1,777 premises visited only 516 sanitary dustbins were found in use, and the position remains unsatisfactory at the present time.

Miscellaneous receptacles for the storage of household refuse are unsatisfactory, and apart from nuisance, arising from their contents being scattered by the winds, they provide breeding grounds for fleas, and food for rats.

THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF TOWN REFUSE.

Collection.

This work is carried out by the Council's own staff under the direction and supervision of the Engineer and Surveyor. Residential quarters have a weekly collection of their household refuse, whilst from business centres and hotels the refuse is collected twice and sometimes more often each week.

All refuse is collected in medium and specially designed motor vehicles thereby reducing to a minimum any nuisance which may arise.

Refuse Disposal.

The disposal of refuse is by "controlled" tipping, the "Dump" being situated on the Sand Dunes of the East Ward, to the West of Rhyh Avenue.

Tipping is carried out in proper layer formation, the refuse being levelled and top dressed with 6 to 9 inches of clear soil, sand or other suitable material.

Back Lanes.

Every effort is made to keep the back-lanes of the District in as clean and passable a state as present circumstances will allow. Frequent inspections are made with a view to preventing deposit and accumulation of refuse thereon.

Roads and Streets.

They are kept in a clean state and improvements in their drainage has been affected by the provision of additional surface water gutters at various points.

Extensions to roadways have been carried out at the Council's Housing Estate during the year. Approximately 1386 linear yards of new roads were mitted, surfaced, kerbed, drained, etc., on this Estate.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

- (i) The number and nature of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector were:—

General Sanitation.

Water Supply	49
Drainage	294
Stables and Piggeries	3
Fried Fish Shops	12
Tents, Vans, Sheds	170
Factories	65
Bakehouses	41
Public Conveniences	30
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	7
Refuse Collection	52
Refuse Disposal	35
Rats and Mice	81
Schools	18
Shops	230
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	22

Housing.

UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Number of Houses inspected	110
Visits paid to above houses	139

UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS.

Number of Houses inspected	4
Visits paid to above houses	12

OVERCROWDING.

Number of Houses inspected	135
Visits paid to above houses	151

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Number of Houses inspected	15
Visits paid to above houses	37
Miscellaneous Housing visits	16

Infectious Diseases.

Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases.....	31
Visits re disinfection	40
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits.....	4

Meat and Food Inspection.

Visits to:—

Slaughterhouses	(Pig Killing)	33
Meat Shops		115
Fishmongers and Poulterers		31
Grocers		42
Greengrocers and Fruiterers		19
Cowsheds		150
Dairies and Milkshops		132
Food Preparing Premises		14
Restaurants		19

VISITS IN CONNECTION WITH SAMPLING—

Milk—Bacteriological	18
Milk—Tubercle Bacilli	12
Milk—Standard Routine Test	113
Water Supplies—Chemical	8
Water Supplies—Bacteriological	6

Factories.

There are 46 Factories (Mechanical and Non-Mechanical) in the District, as follows :—

Engineering Works (Motor Repairs, etc.)	9
Bakehouses	6
Dressmakers	1
Wheelwrights	1
Shoemakers	6
Blacksmiths	1
Plumbers	2
Timber Merchants and Joiners	4
Sewage Pumping Stations	2
Builders' Workshops	5
Gas Works	1
Cycle Repair Shops	2
Quarries	2
Monumental Works	1
Upholsterers	1
Sand and Gravel Works	2

ADMINISTRATION OF THE SHOPS ACTS.

No. of shop premises on the register	216
Visits paid to shops during the year	230
No. of persons employed	452
Adults—Males	154
Females	228
Young Persons—Males	23
Females	47

ERADICATION OF INSECT PESTS.

Bed Bugs.

Fifteen houses were found to be infested with bed bugs.

The work of disinfestation was carried out by the Public Health Department, and any costs incurred were recovered from the householders.

Other Pests.

Three premises were treated for the destruction of other forms of insect pests (cockroaches, steam flies).

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT 1919, AND THE INFESTATION ORDER 1943.

Private Dwellings Scheme N.S. 12.

Number of jobs carried out for rat destruction under the Scheme were:—

Private Dwellings	305
Sewers (in conjunction with above)	105
Council Premises	11
Business Premises	12

In addition to the foregoing two maintenance treatments for the destruction of rats in sewers were completed during the year.

DISINFECTION.

Premises.

Forty-six rooms, on forty premises, were disinfected after cases of Notifiable Disease and other causes.

In addition to the foregoing the following articles were treated in the 'Bacterol' Machine, at your Disinfecting Station, New Road.

Articles disinfected.

Beds	13
Mattresses	10
Bed Covers	8
Blankets	94
Bolsters	17
Pillows and Cushions	85
Carpets	Nil
Quilts	9
Rugs	3
Sheets	47
Eiderdowns	21
Clothing and Other Articles	268

Articles Destroyed.

Flock Pillows	108
Flock Mattresses	40
Feather Pillows	11
Rubber Mattresses	1
Horse-Hair Mattress	1

SCHOOLS IN THE PORTHCAWL AREA.

18 visits were made to Schools during the year.

Generally speaking, the hygienic conditions in the Council Schools are satisfactory.

<i>Schools.</i>	<i>Accommo- dation.</i>	<i>Sanitary Conveniences</i>
Porthcawl Newton Council..... School (Senior Dept.)	298	12 Wash down W.C's, 1 Urinal and 6 Wash-hand basins
Porthcawl Newton Council..... School (Infants' Dept.).....	138	7 Wash-down W.C's., 1 Urinal and 6 wash-hand basins.
Porthcawl Nottage Council School	217	8 Wash-down W.C's. 2 Urinals and 7 Wash-hand basins.
Porthcawl Secondary School	480	19 W.C's., 11 Urinals, 22 Wash-hand basins, and 9 Baths.

The schools in the area are under the control of the Glamorgan County Council who provide for the medical inspection of the scholars.

The sanitary conveniences, etc., are inspected periodically, and any defects found are reported to the Education Authority for attention. In cases of Infectious Diseases, the co-operation of the Headmasters is appreciated, and steps are taken to exclude from school all scholars and any articles which have been in contact with the patient.

All milk supplied to the scholars attending these schools is "Pasteurised", and periodical samples collected from this supply are submitted to the County Analyst for Bacteriological Examination.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

General Observations.

As stated in my previous report, it is difficult to give accurate figures for overcrowding under existing conditions, but it is estimated that an additional 400 houses, of varying sizes are required to meet the needs of applicants for housing accommodation.

Analysis of existing information is set out hereunder:—

Grouping of applicants showing number in family.

<i>Number in Family.</i>	<i>Number of applications</i>
6 persons and/or over	29
5 persons	36
4 persons	107
3 persons	223
2 persons	164
1 person	28
1,829 persons (actual).	587

By the end of the year 58 families had been re-housed by the Authority, 48 families in new Council houses and flats and 10 families in requisitioned properties.

Apart from the evils of overcrowding no really bad conditions prevail in the Area. The necessity does not arise for proceeding by the method of clearance and improvement areas, but can be met by concentrating on steady work directed to continuous maintenance of reasonable conditions of repair. The most serious defect met with is, as usual, dampness. This is not confined to houses of older construction, but appears too often in those recently built.

The complete remedy of this defect is in some instances impracticable, and the property is permanently affected to some degree.

The following table indicates the progress of house crection in the Urban Area from 1893 to 1947.

From 1893 to 1900	55	houses	were	completed	and	occupied.
„ 1900 to 1905	96	„	„	„	„	„
„ 1905 to 1910	492	„	„	„	„	„
„ 1910 to 1915	249	„	„	„	„	„
„ 1915 to 1920	98	„	„	„	„	„
„ 1920 to 1925	223	„	„	„	„	„
„ 1925 to 1930	137	„	„	„	„	„
„ 1930 to 1935	275	„	„	„	„	„
„ 1935 to 1940	337	„	„	„	„	„
„ 1940 to 1945	Nil	„	„	„	„	„
„ 1945 to 1946	14	„	„	„	„	„
„ 1946 to 1947	58	„	„	„	„	„

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Unhealthy Areas	Nil
Number of houses owned by the Local Authority—	
(1) Under the Housing Acts	48
(2) Other Powers	Nil
Number of houses erected during the Year—	
(a) Total	58
(1) By Local Authority	48
(2) By other Bodies and Persons	10
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts.	
(1) By Local Authority	48
(2) By Other Bodies or Persons	Nil
N.B.—Partly completed by Local Authority	76

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Act or Housing Acts)	95
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	149
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under the Sub-Head (1a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts	4
(3) (a) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	91
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2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	66
Authority or their Officers	50

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	41
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after the service of Formal Notice.	
(a) By Owners	39
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	4
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil

- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil

Ninety-five houses were inspected during the year (91 under the Public Health Acts and 4 under the Housing Acts).

Notices served to remedy defects were as follows:—

	<i>Verbal</i>	<i>Intimation</i>	<i>Statutory</i>	<i>Total</i>
Housing Act	Nil	Nil	4	4
Public Health Act	23	64	41	128
	23	64	45	132

Number of Statutory Notices not complied with—4.

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

<i>Nature of Offence</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
<i>Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93.</i>	
Failure to abate a nuisance arising from—	
(1) Defective eavesgutters causing dampness in the dwelling. Insufficient water supply and defective water closet	Order made for the abatement of the nuisance within 28 days.
(2) Defective roof and walls causing dampness in the dwelling-house. Defective woodwork (rot) in floors and windows	Court Order to abate the nuisance within 28 days.
(3) Defective roof, eavesgutters and rendering of walls causing dampness. Defective yard paving, etc.	Order made for the abatement of the nuisance within 28 days.
(4) Defects in external walls causing dampness. Defective firegrate and windows	Order made for the abatement of the nuisance within 28 days.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

During the Summer months ten sites were occupied by holiday campers in tents and motor trailers. One hundred and seventy visits were paid to camping sites in 1947.

The conditions set out hereunder relate to conditions prevailing at the peak period for camping, viz.: August (Bank Holiday) week.

	<i>Ordinary Camps</i>	<i>Organised Camps</i>
Aggregate No. of structures occupied	855	186 (approximately)
Aggregate No. of occupants (estimated at 6 persons per structure)	5130	1132 (Actual)

<i>Total Camping Population</i>	<i>Total No. of Occupied Structures</i>
Year 1947 6,262	(1946) 1,041
For Comparison	
1946 8,383	(1946) 1,368
1945 10,936	(1945) 1,706

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

Two hundred and eighty-two visits have been paid to Dairies, Milkshops and Cowsheds.

Number of Cowkeepers or Dairymen on Register at end of Year	38
Number of Dairy Farms in the Urban Area	18
Number of Retail Purveyors:—	
(a) Resident	12
(b) Non Resident	4
Number of Dairy Milkshops	4
Two Farms produce Graded Milk:—	
Tuberculin Tested	1
Accredited	1
Four Retail Purveyors hold licences for the sale of Designated Milk:—	
Tuberculin Tested Milk	2
Pasteurised (Supplementary Licence)	2

Cleanliness and Bacteriological Examination.

Seventeen samples were submitted to the County Baeteriologist; 11 were satisfactory, 5 were of moderate purity and 1 was unsatisfactory.

Tests	Tuberculin Tested Milk (6)		Accredited Milk (2)		Pasteurised Milk (2)		Ungraded Milk (18)	
	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Methylene Blue Test	1	—	2	—	1	1	13	—
B. Coli Test	1	—	2	—	—	—	8	5

In addition, and not included in the above, 12 samples were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli; these were collected from Farms within the Urban District. All the Samples were negative.

NATIONAL MILK TESTING AND ADVISORY SCHEME.

Standard Routine Test—Keeping Quality of Milk.

One hundred and thirteen samples were collected from the supplies of local Produce Retailers of Milk and submitted for Test at Area Laboratories, Swansea; results recorded are shown in the following:—

<i>Categories.</i>	<i>No. of Samples.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
A.	100	Good keeping quality.
B.	10	Doubtful keeping quality.
C.	3	Unsatisfactory.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

Number of Slaughterhouses	1
Visits in connection with slaughtering	33
Number of Meat Shops	10
Visits to Meat Shops	115

Regular slaughtering and dressing of carcasses at the local slaughterhouses was suspended in 1940, and centralised at the Port Talbot and Bridgend Abattoirs. 27 Bacon Pigs were slaughtered, in this area, during the year. All the carcasses and offals were examined and passed as fit for human consumption.

OTHER FOOD PREMISES.

Two hundred and forty-three visits have been paid to other premises (bakehouses, cafes, fishmongers ice-cream premises) where food intended for human consumption is prepared, stored or sold.

Food diseased, unsound or unwholesome.

The following foodstuffs have been rejected as unfit for human consumption:—

3422 lbs. Beef, 16 lbs. Lamb, 64 lbs. Bacon, 30 lbs. Canned Meats, 21 stone Wet Fish, 9½ stone Cured Fish, 228 packets Cake Mixture, 95 Shell Eggs, 3 lbs. Butter, 59 lbs. Cooking Fats, 5 lbs. Margarine, 45 lbs. Prunes, 23 lbs. Jam, 12 lbs. Cheese, 62 lbs. Sweets, 104 tins Milk, 69 tins Fish, 182 tins (Miscellaneous Canned Goods).

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947.

The Regulations came into operation on the 1st May, 1947, but owing to the difficulties in obtaining equipment an extension of time was granted for securing cooling apparatus, and indicating or recording thermometer.

The Heat Treatment Regulations for Ice-cream, states that **unless** you use a **complete** fully sweetened powdered Ice-cream Mix, or a concentrated liquid Ice-cream Mix fully sweetened, all the ingredients of which have been heat treated together during manufacture, and which requires only the addition of drinking water you must heat treat your ingredients, with the exception of colouring, flavouring agents, fruit, nuts, chocolate or other similar materials, to a temperature of at least **150°F. for 30 minutes or 160°F. for 10 minutes**, and then cool the Mix to **not more than 45°F. within 1½ hours**, and keep it at this temperature until frozen into Ice-cream. After it has been frozen the temperature of the Ice-cream **may not exceed 28°F.**, without being heat treated again.

Number of Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Part 1, Section 14 (2):—

(a) Manufacture, Storage and sale of Ice-Cream.....	22
(b) Storage and sale of Ice-cream	17
Visits of inspection in connection with the above	152

The Food and Drugs Act.

The sampling of foods and drugs, under the provisions of this Act, is undertaken by the Police under the direction of the County Council.

The Police Superintendent at Port Talbot has kindly supplied the following particulars of samples taken in this District during the year:—

<i>Foods Sampled.</i>	<i>No. of Samples taken.</i>
Milk	17
Cake Mixture	1
Tinned Beans	1
Ice-Cream	1
Scone Mixture	1
Coffee	1
Sausage	1
Pudding Flour	1
Picalilli	1
Scotch Broth	1
Tomato Sauce	1
Stewed Steak	1
	—
	28
	—

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1947, for the Urban District of
Porthcawl in the County of Glamorgan.**

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>M/c</i> <i>Line No.</i> (2)	<i>Number on</i> <i>Register</i> (3)	NUMBER OF			<i>M/c</i> <i>Line No.</i> (7)
			<i>Inspections</i> (4)	<i>Written</i> <i>Notices</i> (5)	<i>Occupiers</i> <i>Prosecuted</i> (6)	
(i) Factories in which 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	16	35	—	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	30	71	—	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTAL		46	106	—	—	

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	M/c Line No. (2)	Number of Cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (7)	M/c Line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	1	1	.....	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	.....	—	—	5
Unreasonable Tempera- ture (S.3)	6	—	—	.....	.....	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	.....	.....	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	.....	.....	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)	9	1	—	.....	.....	—	9
(a) Insufficient							
(b) Unsuitable or defec- tive	10	—	—	.....	.....	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	.....	.....	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- work)	12	—	—	.....	.....	—	12
TOTAL	60	2	1	.....	—	—	60

SECTION F.

Diphtheria.

The number of cases notified was 3. All three cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

Two of the cases were adults, and one child aged $12\frac{1}{2}$ years, who had not been completely immunized.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The number of children immunised during the year 1947 was 141. The figure includes children who were immunized privately.

Re-inforcing, or Boosting of Diphtheria Propylactics.

It was recommended by the Ministry of Health, that all children who have been immunized five years or more, should have one injection of Toxoid Antitoxin Floccules (T.A.F.)

During 1947 arrangements were made with the Heads of the Schools in the Porthcawl area for this work to be carried out, as a result, 161 children have received re-inforcing doses.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 16 cases notified during the year. Ten cases were nursed at Hospital, the remainder isolated and treated at home.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

There were four cases of Measles notified during 1947, and one case of Whooping Cough. There were no fatal cases.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

There were three cases notified, 2 males aged 10 and 2, and one female child aged 4, during the peak period of the epidemic which occurred in the country this summer.

The three cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital, and same were discharged, and received after-care treatment at Orthopædic Centres.

The last case notified was a child staying at Bryneglwys Camp. According to the history obtained, and the child's symptoms, it was apparent that the child was suffering from the disease when she arrived here.

Tuberculosis.

Notifications and Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Age Periods	New Cases.						Deaths.					
	Pul- monary		Non-Pul- monary		Totals		Pul- monary		Non-Pul- monary		Totals	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0--1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	2	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	1
25-35	2	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-65	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
65 & up.	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	7	—	1	6	8	1	1	—	—	1	1

Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified during the Year, 1947.

Notifiable Diseases	Cases Notified in Whole District.											Total No. of cases re- moved to Hospital	Total Deaths
	At Ages—Years												
	Under 1	1—3	3—5	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65—	Total		
1. Scarlet Fever	1	1	4	4	3	2	1	—	—	—	16	10	—
2. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	3	3	—
3. Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Measles	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
6. Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—
Totals	1	4	6	6	5	2	2	—	1	—	27	16	—

Deaths from Cancer, 1947.

Organ or Part Affected	AGE GROUPS										Total Deaths.	
	0—15		15—25		25—45		45—65		65 Up			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Colon	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—
Lung	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—
Breast	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	3
Rectum	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	2	1
Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	4
Larynx	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Liver	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Jaw	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
TOTALS	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	4	6	7	10

There are no facilities provided within the Area for the diagnosis and treatment of Cancer. The nearest voluntary hospitals are situated at Cardiff.

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1947.

Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 C.B.'s. & Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Re- sident Pop. 25,000- 50,000 at 1931 Cens's	London Adm. County
<i>Births—</i>	*Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—			
Live Births	†20.5	23.3	22.2	22.7
Still Births	†0.50	0.62	0.54	0.49
All Causes	†12.0	13.0	11.9	12.8
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Influenza	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.08
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01
<i>Notifications—</i>	*(—) signifies that there were no deaths.			
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05
Scarlet Fever	1.37	1.54	1.37	1.31
Whooping Cough	2.22	2.41	2.02	2.80
Diphtheria	0.13	0.15	0.14	0.14
Erysipelas	0.19	0.21	0.18	0.22
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Measles	9.41	9.13	9.58	5.29
Pneumonia	0.79	0.89	0.68	0.64
<i>Deaths—</i>	Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—			
All causes under 1 yr. of age	†41	47	36	37
Enteritis & Diarrhoea under 2 yrs of age	5.8	8.0	3.7	4.8

Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still) :—

(a) Notifications—				
Puerperal Fever	{	7.16	8.99	6.27
Puerperal Pyrexia				
				1.21
				†6.94

(b) Maternal Mortality—Eng. & Wales :— †Including Puerperal Fever.

No. 140 Abortion with Sepsis	No. 141 Abortion without Sepsis	No. 147 Puerperal Infections	Nos. 142-6 148-150 Other
0.10	0.06	0.16	0.85

Abortion : Mortality per million women aged 15-45—England & Wales :—

No. 140 with Sepsis.	No. 141 without Sepsis.
9	5

†Rates per 1,000 total population. ‡Per 1,000 related births.

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY).

VITAL STATISTICS, 1947.

District	Estimated Population 1947	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.		INFANT MORTALITY.	
		Number of Births.	Rate per 1,000 Population.	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1,000 births
Administrative County	712,070	14,803	20.8	9,312	13.1	752	51
Urban Districts	520,900	11,093	21.3	7,107	13.6	585	53
Rural Districts	191,170	3,710	19.4	2,205	11.5	167	45
England & Wales	—	—	20.5	—	12.0	—	41
Urban Districts—							
Aberdare	39,780	721	18.1	627	15.8	45	62
Barry	38,480	895	23.3	482	12.5	43	48
BRIDGEND	12,710	263	20.7	143	11.3	10	38
Caerphilly	32,260	793	24.6	431	13.4	55	69
Cowbridge	1,290	9	7.0	16	12.4	—	00
Gelligaer	35,810	830	23.2	437	12.2	53	64
Glyncorrwg	8,770	215	24.5	131	14.9	12	56
Llchwyr	25,680	476	18.5	279	10.9	17	36
Maesteg	22,800	529	23.2	312	13.7	32	60
Mountain Ash	31,480	654	20.8	468	14.9	48	73
Neath	31,510	632	20.1	395	12.5	21	33
Ogmore & Garw	23,000	462	20.1	307	13.3	22	48
Penarth	17,230	377	21.9	224	13.0	16	42
Pontypridd	38,800	853	22.0	530	13.7	48	56
Portcawl	8,640	169	19.6	145	16.8	7	41
Port Talbot	40,820	905	22.2	512	12.5	36	40
Rhondda	111,840	2,310	20.7	1,668	14.9	120	52
Rural Districts—							
Cardiff	36,770	582	15.8	390	10.6	19	33
Cowbridge	13,110	367	28.0	145	11.1	17	46
Gower	10,920	216	19.8	133	12.2	7	32
Llantrisant	23,670	561	23.7	278	11.7	22	39
Neath	40,300	800	19.9	472	11.7	37	46
Penybont	33,290	627	18.8	361	10.8	40	64
Pontardawe	33,110	557	16.8	426	12.9	25	45

Public Health Department, Glamorgan County Hall, Cardiff. May, 1947.



